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Reply to Office Action of October 10, 2003

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Amendments to the Specification:

[0075] The de-noising algorithm may also include a thresholding procedure. A thresholding procedure, such as soft thresholding or wavelet shrinking, comprises a mathematical transformation whereby wavelet coefficients caused by noise can be reduced. Thus, thresholding may be applied to the wavelet coefficients to shrink or remove those wavelet coefficients mainly due to noise components. Two key parameters for the shrinkage step are the shrinkage method and the low frequency cutoff. These parameters are preferably optimized for each spectrum using shrinkage methods including, but not limited to, Visu, SURE, and MAD, which are known to those of skill in the art (see e.g. D.L. Donoho and I.M. Johnstone, WAVELAB™ toolbox available at ~~<http://www-stat.Stanford.edu/~wavelab>~~ through the Stanford University department of Statistics website).